

THURSDAY, MARCH 11TH, 1875.]

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
OUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,
Received up to 5th March, 1875.

POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

The *Marwar Gazette* of the 22nd February records a case of murder, the victim being Thakur Dilip Singh, resident of Jalesar, Agra district. The murderers of the foul deed, unable to enter the house by the door, which was well guarded by armed men, found entrance at a small window at the back of the house and cut the Thakur to pieces, after which they departed by the same way as they came, and no clue to them has yet been found.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 26th February, referring to the application of Mr. Melvill, late B.C.S., to the Civil Service Fund, asking for a return of the money subscribed by him ; as well as to his wife's application to Government for an allowance for herself and children, remarks that it is a piece of gross injustice that merely because this gentleman chose to change his religion he should lose his appointment, and now be subjected to the loss of his own money placed in the Fund for the use of his family. "This can be called by no other name than partiality and prejudice on the part of Government."

The *Panjabi Akhbar* of the 27th February reports murders of frequent occurrence at Gujrat: no less than five are said to have occurred since the 1st January, 1875. The recent attempt to murder an officer by the frontier tribes is also noticed; it is said that the intention was to murder another European as they murdered Major Macdonald near Fort Machni, but the ball fell short.

The *Atalik-i-Hind* of the same date alludes to a disturbance between the Shias and Sunnis during the recent Muharram at Nurpur (Kangra): "several Sunnis were wounded, and one child is said to be dying."

This paper states that two *fakirs* were arrested at Benares with property belonging to a jeweller worth some Rs. 5,000. A saw and a large knife were also found, which they used against those who endeavoured to capture them. The editor thinks it the duty of the police to keep a good look out over such characters, who go about in disguise and too frequently carry out their evil intentions in the garb of *fakirs*. It is further affirmed that a disturbance took place at Benares during the late Muharram, where some eight or ten men were wounded.

The *Vidya Vilas* of the 22nd February states that his correspondent affirms that in the Batala zila sweepers are much given to cattle poisoning.

The *Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Hind* of the 27th February, in the news column of Lucknow, adds that it is well known that on the Sitapur road dacoities are of frequent occurrence. For the suppression of these the authorities have resolved that an armed constable is to accompany the dâk gharris that travel from Sitapur. The editor adds that it does not seem likely that a band of dacoits would be deterred from their purpose by the appearance of one armed constable.

The *Agra Akhbar* of the 28th February offers an opinion upon the intention of the Bengal Government to open a jail

for minors, to hold 500 prisoners. The editor thinks it would not be good policy to entrust the management of such an institution to the Inspector-General of Jails, but that it might be better in the hands of the Director of Public Instruction.

The *Roznamcha* of the 1st February brings to the notice of Government a custom which prevails in the Government sarais, viz., the farming of them out to contractors who demand exorbitant hire from travellers. One instance cited is the sarai at Raseya, near Sialkot, where a contractor is in the habit of oppressing travellers very much. The writer thinks that as Government has erected these places for the benefit of the public, it is unjust for contractors to enforce payment only from those they do not like; all travellers ought to be entitled to the advantages the sarais afford.

The *Jalwa-i-Tur* of the 1st March reports the case of a Brahman woman having gone to a Hindu temple, and left her infant there for want of means to support it; the priest gave notice to the police and an enquiry was made, the result involving the character of one Chhoti Begam of Lucknow, but the case fell through for want of evidence in the first instance; a subsequent investigation led to the arrest of the Begam and Mohibb Ali Khan. The editor remarks that the Police can do as they please in getting up cases, and now it is said this one has been made over to the sessions.

POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 25th February remarks that among other chiefs ordered to attend the Darbar, Nahan will not be forced to comply with the request, because he is not anxious to meet the Patiala chief, owing to precedence being allowed to the latter, whereas Nahan is entitled to the distinction of ranking before him as the descendant of a more ancient family.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 26th February, treating of Baroda affairs, remarks that the gentlemen of the law engaged for the defence of the Gaekwar have determined to expend much

more money in clearing him of the imputations laid to his charge than the Government is laying out to criminate him. They have, among other things, caused it to be published in many newspapers that the Government is disinclined to give money, and that it is acting in a very mean and stingy manner in the case.

The *Saiyid-ul-Akhbar* of the 20th February, writing on the Baroda Commission, declares it his bounden duty to call upon all Hindustani members of it to bear in mind that there are many Englishmen who possess a large share of the evils and failings to which our nature is so prone—such as dishonourable tendencies, presumptuous foolishness, &c. The writer proceeds to say :—“ I would bring this forward simply to show that in this nation people of all kinds of dispositions may be found. We have frequently heard of such persons, in their desire for gain, pressing Hindustanis hard for the bribe they expect. We have heard of Residents providing themselves with furniture and accepting other favours from the chiefs of the States, and when any disinclination to oblige was once shown, it has always been noticed by the Agent in a marked manner, by which means the Agents have it all their own way. Some have even gone so far as to look upon a chief as his brother, by exchanging turbans, while other such false relationships have sprung up to suit their own ends. We regret to think that certain unwise officers do not see the evil these reports create, but by this we do not intend to cast any reproach on Colonel Phayre. We have seen hundreds of Englishmen who have not scrupled to take their Bible oaths in civil cases for the most trifling sums of money, while hundreds have brought up false criminal charges; but, as a rule, such persons are easily led, and are weak minded. However, there is no doubt that military men are not suited for the office of Residents or Political Agents, as they are, generally speaking, quick tempered (while native chiefs are sure to be given to flattery), and know or care for little else besides powder and shot. These military men, in their

unwise policy, think that the regiment to which they belong is quite sufficient to crush the Native State they have in their charge. But this idea is absurd: witness the troubles and disturbances worked by rebels like Nana Rao, Tula Ram, Samand Khan, &c., &c., and although the Government has no fear, because no chiefs possess such an army as the Government, yet whenever the slightest misrule prevails it is seldom quelled without great loss to Government." The writer then alludes to the dispute at Nepal with Colonel Anderson, which caused great loss to Government; "and now the wisdom of the Baroda Resident! Doubtless if the case is proved against the Maharaja, it will show how the hot temper of a Resident costs the Government a large sum of money. We would enquire further whether Government would suffer any loss by not employing military officers as Residents? We do not assert that in the cases of Nepal and Baroda the Agents were alone to blame; perhaps some of the State servants were also in fault, but it is generally the case that the chiefs are totally ignorant of the faults committed by their servants; and if these chiefs had been aware of the circumstances, it would have been more becoming for the Agents or Residents to have exercised a little tact in putting things straight. It is well known that there was a misunderstanding between the chief and the late Resident. There are many Englishmen who are completely led by their servants, and it is not at all unlikely that some servant has done this from motives of revenge, or that some enemy of the Maharaja's has worked against him through his own people." Finally, the writer gives it as his opinion that the death of Colonel Phayre could not have affected the Maharaja, because another Resident would have been appointed, and, moreover, the Maharaja had it in his power to get Colonel Phayre recalled; and he further thinks that when a Resident has been the means of placing the Maharajah in confinement, he (the Resident) should be turned out of his appointment; because it will affect the working of the case very materially, as people will still fear the consequences of going against one in power,

or who may again be placed in power over them. The writer declares that he has no other motive than that of justice in taking up the cause of the Maharaja, because, if it goes against him, it will be the means of depriving many a poor man of bread, for it is not a case of only one gentleman who, losing his appointment, takes his wife with him and goes off to England, and when there follows any profession he pleases.

The *Urdu Akhbar* of the 24th February remarks :—" Truly the step that Government has taken in thus deposing Mulhar Rao cannot be counted as one of oppression, but is in accordance with perfect justice, inasmuch as by the gross negligence of one man a very extensive and powerful State was being ruined, and the native officials of the State were, by their means of exercising tyranny, distressing the people subject to it. In the first place it is difficult for Mulhar Rao to be quite free from the crime imputed to him, and should it so happen that he has the good luck to escape the punishment due him, he can never be reinstated again, for there are many reports of his evil deeds which have been made known to Government already. It must of course follow, when the Government has leisure to act with regard to Baroda affairs, it will take the opportunity of placing one from the family on the seat of the deposed man, for it is not the desire of Government to take over the country to itself; and we must in all justice to that Government say that it did its best to counsel Mulhar Rao to do good. If he failed it was his own fault, and the only step left for the Government was to take it over. We would strongly recommend the Government to make it a rule ever to look well into the qualifications of all those whom it desires to place in a position to rule over any State in future, and let the troubles of Baroda be a warning to it."

The *Dabdaba-i Sikandari* of the 1st March, in noticing the departure of the Maharaja of Jaipur for Baroda, &c., travelling by the East India line, takes the liberty of enquiring why His Highness did not patronize the Jaipur train

He then proceeds to say—"We are not well informed as to the reasons assigned, but the bazar report is that the Maharaja had sent his engine to be repaired to the Jaipur station, and the Superintendent not only refused to repair it, but would not allow it to stand at the station. This is said to have greatly displeased the Maharaja, and resulted in an order for a private dâk to be laid for him, by which he travelled." The editor remarks that if this has really taken place it displays a great want of courtesy, and has a bearing towards gross insolence on the part of the Superintendent, which the Government of India is bound to notice, by rebuking the Railway official for such conduct towards such a firm ally of the British Government.

The *Lauh-i-Mahfuz* of the 26th February, writes from Patiala :—"The fact of the Maharaja of Patiala having taken presents to the amount of Rs. 5,000, with two head of cattle, and presented them in person at the house of a distant relation of the Diwan, on the occasion of a marriage, has set the people wondering at such an odd proceeding, so much beneath the dignity of a chief, and which has never before occurred in the State. Another act worthy of censure is that when a prostitute had a quarrel with this chief and left him, Diwan Deva Singh and the Khalifa Sahib were sent in the middle of the night to reconcile her and bring her back." The writer adds that the tale is a long and disgraceful one, about which he shall have more to say.

The *Agra Akhbar* of the 28th February, writing of Baroda affairs, says—"Some ignorant Hindustanis have an idea that the Gaekwar's troops would have proved sufficient for their protection, had the Maharaja wished to offer any resistance to the British." To do away with this erroneous impression, the editor instances the fact that when the Governor of Bombay was at Baroda, it was impossible to find in all the artillery of the Maharaja even two guns from which a salute could have been fired, and they had to fall back on British artillery

for the honours. The writer says—"This shows only too clearly how native chiefs waste their wealth. Some spend large sums in building mansions, others in keeping up wrestlers, others in getting new wives; in fact from all frivolous and foolish amusements, and unwise occupations, Hindustani chiefs derive great pleasure, and also by wilfully squandering their wealth."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Nizam-ul-Asar* of the 20th February, under the heading "a solemn engagement", mentions the report that at a place called Beniganj there has been during the past week an influx of cloth of all kinds in the market, which is not for sale, but is given under a promise of some kind of return (as payment) in the month of April or May, on condition that if the money is not paid then the possessors will have to proceed at once to a certain place. "The price named for the cloth is very high, and we feel certain that it will be sent also to other cities."

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 25th February, in announcing the intended visit of the Viceroy to Dehli and holding a Darbar, wonders if the wealthy people of the city will open their purse-strings at the pleasure of seeing the great man, and erect some building to commemorate the event which will prove beneficial to the public. The editor is of opinion that it would be a good plan to make arrangements similar to those at Dacca to supply river water to the people of the city; the writer at the same time stating that this plan has already been determined on, but that, owing to want of funds, it has been delayed by the Municipal Committee; but he hopes that the citizens will now come forward and finish a work so fraught with good to the public.

The *Anjuman Akhbar* of the 1st March draws attention to the large number of professional beggars at Lucknow. The writer acknowledges that they are plentiful enough in most large cities, but that Lucknow may claim the majority.

The *Ashraf-ul-Akhbar* of the 1st March notices that the Municipality of Dehli invited His Excellency the Viceroy to accept a dinner from them on his arrival. The reply was—"Holy God! what, am I to eat of the dinner of charity?" The editor says this reply of Lord Northbrook's needs no comment, it is perfect in every sense of the word. We grieve over the condition of these citizens who have been recognized as respectable gentlemen of this city only since the rebellion of 1857, and who have risen to such distinction and honour only through the authorities of the present day! Why has not one of the newly created noblemen of this city had the ambition to feast the Viceroy personally? We truly grieve over those real but fallen noblemen of this place, who have been so trampled on as not to be able to entertain a great ruler on the occasion of this great event! If the times had dealt more leniently with them, would they not have come forward with Rs. 5,000 or 10,000 to show their loyalty and delight at this happy event? But they are helpless."

The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report :—

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
1	Mufid-i-Am,	Urdu,	Agra,	Bi-monthly, ...	1875. 15th	1875. 1st
2	Nizam-ul-Asar,	Ditto,	Khairabad,	Tri-monthly, ...	20th	1st
3	Marwar Gazette,	Urdu and Hindi,	Jodhpur,	Weekly, ...	22nd	1st
4	Akhyar-ul-Akhbar,	Urdu,	Lucknow,	Ditto, ...	23rd	1st
5	Khair Khwah-i-Panjab,	Ditto,	Gujranwala,	Ditto, ...	24th	1st
6	Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq,	Ditto,	Aligarh,	Not fixed, ...	24th	1st
7	Najm-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly, ...	24th	1st
8	Akhbar-i-Alam,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	25th	1st
9	Aligarh Institute Gazette,	Urdu and English,	Aligarh,	Ditto, ...	26th	1st
10	Oudh Akhbar,	Urdu,	Lucknow,	Bi-weekly, ...	26th	1st
11	Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Panjab,	Ditto,	Lahore,	Weekly, ...	26th	1st
12	Koh-i-Nur,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
13	Panjabi Akhbar,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
14	Atalik-i-Hind,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
15	Hindu Prakash,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
16	Nur-ul-Anwar,	Ditto,	Amritsar,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
17	Nur-ul-Afak,	Ditto,	Cawnpore,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
18	Urdu Delhi Gazette,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Bi-monthly, ...	27th	1st
19	Meerut Gazette,	Ditto,	Agra,	Weekly, ...	27th	1st
20	Muir Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Ditto, ...	27th	1st
21	Saiyid-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	28th	1st
22	Kayasth Samaachur,	Urdu and Hindi,	Delhi,	Tri-monthly, ...	20th	2nd
23	Urdu Akhbar,	Urdu,	Lucknow,	Bi-monthly, ...	22nd	2nd
24	Benares Akhbar,	Ditto,	Delhi,	Weekly, ...	24th	2nd
25	Khair Khwah-i-Alam,	Hindi,	Benares,	Ditto, ...	25th	2nd
26	Mayo Memorial Gazette,	Urdu,	Delhi,	Tri-monthly, ...	25th	2nd
27	Nasir-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	28th	2nd
28	Nasir-ul-Islam,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	28th	2nd
29	Safir-i-Hind,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto, ...	28th	2nd

30	Akmal-ul-Akhbar,	...	Urdu,	...	Delhi,	...	Weekly,	...	Feb.	28th	March	2nd
31	Sadadarsha,	...	Anglo-Hindi,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	March	1st	"	2nd
32	Vidya Vilas,	...	Urdu,	...	Jammu,	...	Ditto,	...	Feby.	22nd	"	3rd
33	Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Hind,	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	"	27th	"	3rd
34	Dabdar-i-Sikandari,	...	Ditto,	...	Rampur,	...	Ditto,	...	March	1st	"	3rd
35	Lauh-i-Mahfuz,	...	Ditto,	...	Moradabad,	...	Ditto,	...	Feby.	26th	"	4th
36	Rajputana Social Science Congress Gazette.	...	Ditto,	...	Jaipur,	...	Ditto,	...	"	26th	"	4th
37	Gwalior Gazette,	...	Urdu and Hindi,	...	Gwalior,	...	Ditto,	...	"	28th	"	4th
38	Agra Akhbar,	...	Urdu,	...	Agra,	...	Tri-monthly,	...	"	28th	"	4th
39	Ab-i-Hayat-i-Hind,	...	Urdu and Hindi,	...	Ditto,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	March	1st	"	4th
40	Almora Akhbar,	...	Ditto,	...	Almora,	...	Ditto,	...	"	1st	"	4th
41	Khair Khwah-i-Punjab,	...	Urdu,	...	Gujranwala,	...	Weekly,	...	"	1st	"	4th
42	Rifah-i-Am,	...	Ditto,	...	Sialkot,	...	Ditto,	...	"	1st	"	4th
43	Karnama,	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	"	1st	"	4th
44	Roznamcha,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Feby.	1st	"	5th
45	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	"	2nd	"	5th
46	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	"	3rd	"	5th
47	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Daily,	...	"	4th	"	5th
48	Lam-i-Nur,	...	Ditto,	...	Jaunpur,	...	Weekly,	...	"	28th	"	5th
49	Maksud-ul-Akhbar,	...	Ditto,	...	Gurgaon,	...	Ditto,	...	" 4th week.	4th week.	"	5th
50	Patiala Akhbar,	...	Ditto,	...	Patiala,	...	Ditto,	...	March	1st	"	5th
51	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar (a new paper),	...	Ditto,	...	Delhi,	...	Tri-monthly,	...	"	1st	"	5th
52	Anjuman Akhbar,	...	Ditto,	...	Shahjahanpur,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	"	1st	"	5th
53	Nur-ul-Absar,	...	Ditto,	...	Allahabad,	...	Ditto,	...	"	1st	"	5th
54	Jalwa-i-Tur,	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Weekly,	...	"	1st	"	5th
55	Lawrence Gazette,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	"	2nd	"	5th
56	Shola-i-Tur,	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore,	...	Ditto,	...	"	2nd	"	5th
57	Vakil-i-Hindustan,	...	Ditto,	...	Amritsar,	...	Ditto,	...	"	3rd	"	5th

DELHI :
The 10th March, 1875. }
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